

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation. This is the result of the dismantling of the "equal time" requirements.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. Free speech is limited by the obligations connected with using the public airwaves. When large companies control the airwaves, they can begin to control the political process.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.